

Message Text

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ACTION EB-07

INFO OCT-01 EA-06 IO-10 ISO-00 FEA-01 AGR-05 CEA-01

CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00 FRB-03 H-01 INR-07 INT-05

L-02 LAB-04 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 AID-05 CIEP-01 SS-15

STR-01 TAR-01 TRSE-00 USIA-06 PRS-01 SP-02 OMB-01

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R 130833Z FEB 75

FM AMEMBASSY SEOUL

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8335

INFO USMISSION GENEVA

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GENEVA FOR MTN DELEGATION

EO 11652: N/A

TAGS: ETRD, KS

SUBJECT: TRADE ACT OF 1974 -- GENERALIZED SYSTEM
OF PREFERENCES (GSP)

REF. A. STATE 282967 B. STATE 021689 C. STATE 028219

1. RE INSTRUCTIONS REF (A) AND SUBSEQUENT ADDITIONAL
GUIDANCE REFS (B) AND (C), REGARDING BRINGING SECTIONS
502(C)(1) AND 502(C)(4) OF TRADE ACT TO ATTENTION HOST
GOVERNMENT, EMBASSY HAS BOTH DISCUSSED INFORMALLY WITH
ROKG MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS (MOFA) OFFICIALS AND,
FOR RECORD, REFERRED TO ABOVE PROVISIONS IN LETTER
FROM ECONOMIC COUNSELOR TO MOFA ASSISTANT MINISTER FOR
ECONOMIC AFFAIRS, KIM, DONG WHIE. ACCORDING MOFA,
ROKG EMBASSY HAS ALREADY BEEN INSTRUCTED DELIVER NOTE
TO DEPARTMENT INDICATING ROKG DESIRE TO BE DESIGNATED
BENEFICIARY DEVELOPING COUNTRY FOR GSP PROVISIONS
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WITH INTENT OF MEETING REQUIREMENT SECTION 502(C)(1).

QUESTION OF PROVIDING USG SOME ASSURANCES WITH RESPECT SECTION 502(C)(4) HAD NOT BEEN CONSIDERED PRIOR OUR MOST RECENT DISCUSSION, BUT INITIAL REACTION OF MOFA OFFICIALS WAS THAT IT SHOULD PRESENT NO PROBLEM FOR ORKG AND THAT THEY WILL PROBABLY USE OPPORTUNITY OF RESPONDING TO EMBASSY'S LETTER TO PROVIDE SUCH ASSURANCES OR TO REFER TO PREVIOUS INSTANCES IN WHICH SUCH ASSURANCES HAVE BEEN GIVEN.

2. EMBASSY HAS HAD INTERMITTENT INFORMAL DIALOGUE ON TRADE ACT WITH ROKG OFFICIALS, PRINCIPALLY IN MOFA AND MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (MCI), BOTH DURING TIME WHEN LEGISLATION WAS BEING CONSIDERED BY CONGRESS AND SINCE ITS ENACTMENT INTO LAW. ROKG WASHINGTON EMBASSY APPEARS TO BE KEEPING ROKG ADEQUATELY INFORMED AND WE HAVE PERIODICALLY PASSED ALONG MATERIAL FROM UNCLASSIFIED CABLES AND USIS WIRELESS FILE AS WELL. KEY WORKING LEVEL OFFICIALS OF BOTH MOFA AND MCI HAVE WELL-THUMBED COPIES OF LAW ITSELF.

3. MCI HAS BEEN UPDATING AN EARLIER ANALYSIS OF LIKELY IMPACT OF GSP ON KOREAN EXPORTS AND HAS INVITED EMBOFF TO DISCUSS RESULTS WHEN STUDY COMPLETED, PROBABLY EARLY NEXT WEEK. WE UNDERSTAND LIKELY CONCLUSION WILL BE THAT ABOUT 90 PERCENT OF KOREAN EXPORTS ARE LIKELY TO BE EXCLUDED FROM GSP, OR ABOUT SAME AS ESTIMATED IN EARLIER STUDY. WE WILL REPORT FURTHER FOLLOWING DISCUSSION MENTIONED ABOVE.
SNEIDER

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